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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A ~~power~~ powder body metering apparatus comprising a base plate having an inlet and an outlet provided through in a vertical direction, a slide plate provided in a lower surface of the base plate so as to freely move horizontally and having a through hole provided in a vertical direction, and a metering container in which an edge portion of an upper end opening is fixed to an edge portion of the through hole of the slide plate, and structured such that said metering container is variable in an internal capacity and is provided in a lower portion with a porous body not allowing a powder body having a set magnitude to pass through and allowing a gas to pass through, said slide plate freely move between a position at which the through hole meets the inlet of the base plate and a position at which the through hole meets the outlet of the base plate, and the inlet of the base plate is closed in a state in which the through hole meets the outlet of the base plate, wherein a powder body discharge port is formed in a lower portion of said metering container, and the powder body discharge port is freely opened and closed by a closing member for inhibiting the powder body from flowing out therefrom.

2. (original) A powder body metering apparatus comprising a metering container having an inlet in an upper end and a horizontal outlet in an upper side portion, a check valve for opening and closing the inlet of the metering container, and an upward discharge pipe connected to the horizontal outlet, and structured such that said metering container is variable in an internal capacity and is provided in a lower portion with a porous body not allowing a powder body having a set magnitude to pass through and allowing a gas to pass through, wherein a powder body discharge port is formed in a

lower portion of said metering container, and the powder body discharge port is freely opened and closed by a closing member for inhibiting the powder body from flowing out therefrom.